

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 15 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 16, 17 and 20 have been amended. New claims 21 – 24 claim the anchor specifically, generally corresponding in scope to claims 16 – 18 and 20.

The Examiner's remarks regarding the phraseology of the claims are appreciated. In claim 16, "and end" has been corrected to set forth only the end. Claim 16 has also been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim the multi-purpose anchor system which can use either, or both, a pin-end strap and a variety of other strap or binding ends. The pin aperture and the second arrangement strap receiving arrangement, "receiving section", consistent with the teachings of the specification (elements 15 for the pin receiving aperture and element 12 for the receiving section).

Antecedency for the anchor and surface has been corrected in claim 17. Claim 18 depends therefrom and the Section 112 rejection should be corrected. Claim 20 has had the tensile members more particularly described with reference to their corresponding aperture and receiving section.

It is respectfully submitted that Lewis does not teach the claimed structure. Lewis uses a spring loaded, multi-part pin, with slotted ends, the slots engaging the edge of an aperture. Lewis provides no explanation for the adaptation of other tension members, whether strap, metal binding, or the like. The anchor and anchor system taught here, even as originally claimed, uses the receiving section to alternatively receive a looped strap or binding 32, as described in the specification, or a hook (also referred to as a clip) end 32. The specification makes it clear that

the strap or steel binder may be looped through the receiving section. As now particularly claimed, contoured surface 14 provides the advantage of leading the end of the strap or binding through the receiving section. Without surface 14 it would be extremely difficult to thread a strap, or particular a steel binding, through cavity 13.

Claims 21 – 24 follow the foregoing analysis and have essentially the same limitations, but claim 21 claims the anchor itself rather than the system in the vehicle.

It is believed that with the Section 112 issues resolved, it is now quite clear that the claims are patentable. Formal Allowance is respectfully solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,



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